Loans to minorities

†3572. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India have sought information from all the banks of the country regarding loans provided to minority communities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that instructions have been issued to take action against the banks which have shown lethargy in advancing loans to minority communities; and

(c) the number of loan applications received from the persons of minority communities during the year 2006-07 and the number of persons to whom the loans were advanced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of ACC and SCC by banks

3573. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Artisans Credit Card (ACC) and Swarozgar Credit Card (SCC) have been issued by different Public Sector Banks so far in different States of the country;

(b) whether there is any scheme to provide credit facilities to weavers and artisans in the country by Public Sector Banks; and

(c) if so, how much funds have been provided so far to these sectors and number of beneficiaries under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) The State-wise data relating to the Swarojgar Credit Cards (SCCs) issued by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) as on 31st December 2006 is given in Statement *(See* below). NA8ARD does not maintain data of Artisan Credit Card (ACC), which has been launched by Ministry of Textiles.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.